



Ustinov College GCR Exec Meeting

Agenda

6:00 pm, 02/11/20

Action Points From Minutes – red is new from today's meeting.

CA to extend last few email accounts

CA to contact someone to fix the vending machine

CA to find out about the updates to green move-in sale, and update details about facilities at SP for handbook

CA to organise an online office hours rota as the new committee comes in

CA to check the social distance events page about COVID from before, and see how much is still relevant, and if anything could be updated for this

BD to sort out the gaps in the minutes from previous years GMs

All to look into online events theatre shows available to stream

SG and social committee to come up with a schedule of activities during the lockdown

Apologies:

Present: *BD, DM, CA, JB, CV, MZ, VV, FD, SG, LC*

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting.

- a. Approval of minutes from 26/10/2020 – *need to anonymise the previous set of minutes; pass on to next week.*

2. Matters arising from previous minutes.

- a. CA to extend last few email accounts *ongoing*
- b. CA to contact someone to fix the vending machine *ongoing*
- c. CA to find out about the updates to green move-in sale, and update details about facilities at SP for handbook *ongoing*
- d. CA to organise an online office hours rota as the new committee comes in *ongoing*
- e. VV to investigate why we have been charged for BT on 22/9/20 *done*
- f. BD to sort out the gaps in the minutes from previous years GMs *ongoing*
- g. All to look into online events theatre shows available to stream *ongoing*
- h. JB to forward email and coordinate alcohol awareness training to exec/committee members who haven't yet attended *done*
- i. MZ to look into the benefits from National Trust as a benefit for T2 memberships if we can share cards *done*

3. Agenda Items:

a. [CV] Squash Club Re-ratification

- The Squash Club have sent their ratification form. It has been uploaded on the drive but it looks fine. Asking to ratify the club.

Passes with all in favour.

b. [DM] Activities during lockdown

- As all know lockdown will start on Thursday, and we will have lot of students that might need support (see report).

Gym could be available for 1 hour per household; constraints the household to be at the gym at the same time. Activities can still be possible, but now has to be per household with no mixing at all e.g. hybrid pub quiz is not possible anymore. This means that the online formal can still go ahead.

The movie night is still allowed to go ahead on Tuesday, but just good ideas for later.

Regarding gym; households range from 15-30 odd people. They don't have to social distance in the gym if they're in households, but still aren't allowed in each others kitchens? Slightly confusing. How can we fit all these people in? Would this be interested – set up a poll maybe? Wouldn't be possible to fit all? What about slots sessions – 2 in the morning, 1 in the afternoon, 2 in the night? How can they fit this around lectures/workshops etc?

Does this even fit in with national guidelines – pretty clear government advice about gyms.

How would we even do selling of memberships? In the time it would take to get it done, it would even be too late.

From documentation from Quentin – in the event that we started planning to open the gym, it would still need to passed by UEC.

2 questions – 1) Should we open the gym, and 2) If so, how should we do it?

Vote: fails with 0 votes in favour, 0 abstentions.

We should revisit this on the 31st of November, a few days before the lockdown and see if we can rethink and reapproach things.

Regarding events; we should still put on 1-2 events a week similar to the stuff during induction week?

Should it be more frequent; e.g. board games night etc.

Can we do more welfare based events again? JB meeting with resident welfare team, but could work with CV in advertising events, such as running club routes/walking routes.

Do we want to put together a schedule/calendar of events? Like a little countdown for the lockdown period. Maybe can give them things to do in their flats, or do similar stuff to the mini formal.

This should be discussed with the social committee; come back next week with a calendar etc.

[AP] SG and social committee to come up with a schedule of activities during the lockdown

4. Officer Reports:

a. Bar [-]

- Nothing to report.

b. Clubs & Societies [CV]

- On the negative news, as expected from the new national lockdown, all sport activities in college will have to be paused from Thursday onwards. I still need to get official confirmation from Team Durham, but I heard that football can't have more training so I expect the same for the other teams too. That includes the slots we had in Durham school.

- The deadline for funding requests has passed and in total I have three. It would be good to have a finance committee meeting at some point to look at them.

- To finish with something positive, I have the designs for the stash from PlayerLayer! The colour shades will be as appearing here and the prices will

follow the ones from the other college pages if people want to have an idea before the Ustinov site is online.

c. Communications [LC]

- Nothing to report.

First newsletter has gone out; first one in a while! Next one is being sent out next week – send any items for that.

Have we sent out any information about the new lockdown/COVID in general?

Two possibilities – 1) Lockdown is important, so in addition to the newsletter, sent out from DM as well. 2) They're already getting information about this; do we need to overload them.

If it's being included in the newsletter, then doesn't need to be repeated. Just put something that explains our points and thoughts going forward.

[AP] CA to check the social distance events page about COVID from before, and see how much is still relevant, and if anything could be updated for this

Still have the treasure hunt to collect Peters, so could use this at some point.

d. DSU [-] (DM)

- In the meeting has been raised that there are no student trustees appointing after February. The survey for governance will be share soon. We got the 2 items passed on the voting, change to the standing order D (Assemblies online) and SU Equality & Diversity amendment.

e. Facilities [-] (DM)

- Nothing to report.

Changing Netflix/Disney+ soon; nobody signed up this week. Observatory/other facilities now delayed. Still chasing up Moette.

As an FYI; planning to get rid of the boxes stored in the gym, which are packages; they were supposed to be there for when students arrive. If the packages food, then will give them away to students etc

f. Finance [VV]

- Current Balance: £36,172.81

- HSBC have still not sent me an email regarding the access to Accounts.

- I received a reminder to renew the insurance policy. However, I noticed an increase and asked the lady to explain the reasoning behind this increase. Still waiting on a response.

g. International Officer [MZ]

- I have received response from National Trust and it does not reflect what we are expecting. They did not allow us to book individually as we are subscribed under Educational Group Memberships which allows school trips only and not for individual use. It seems that our membership is going to be idle throughout this year especially when the lockdown is implemented soon. Thus, to come up with an alternative for the trip, probably the best, is to do everything virtual (the scarce of virtual trip website does make it harder for us to find the best one)

- Added to that, Diwali or the Indian festival of lights will be celebrated on 14th of November. Thus, should we create a virtual party for this? It may seem impossible for us to replicate what we are expecting to do for Bonfire Night and no logistics costs I presume.

Diwali online would be good; how we do it is another question, but a good idea

regardless. Virtual light festival etc; some area available.

It is worth making a post, either this weekend, or Wednesday, about Remembrance Sunday (8th)

h. Livers Out Rep [FD]

- Over the past week, I have kept receiving emails from livers out asking to be put in the mailing list. I will finalise it as soon as I get a few more people. I will start office hours soon too.

- On the welfare committee side, I have been working on the "Take Time to Sign Campaign" (starting today).

- On the social committee side, I added a small section for livers out in Sorcha's booking form.

- I have recently made a post on the Livers Out Facebook group in order to figure out if livers out would be willing to come to the common room on Saturdays.

Need to think about the deliveries; SG and housemates w/ car are now isolating, but only a few livers out deliveries. Few exec members can help but shouldn't be terrible.

i. Social [SG]

- Everything is in place for the events this week, waiting to hear the college's decision about which ones will go ahead (if any).

- People are continuing to sign up for the formal which is great. Had over 30 responses from both livers in and livers out.

- I'm also continuing to explore different ideas in terms of virtual events.

j. Steering [CA]

- I'm looking for a good date to hold a full committee meeting/ social. A Friday in November seems good - working around any events that might be planned.

- I've also been thinking about general meetings - we often have one mid-late November, mainly for by-elections. Besides from this do we have any great need for a GM? One way of avoiding GM fatigue could be to have a GM in January, leaving the rest of this term free to focus on as good a social calendar as we can.

Is it worth holding GM? Because of circumstances; leave GM until January.

Probably more important to look after people. CA will drop a note to trustees just to make sure they're okay with that.

k. Welfare [JB]

- New 'lockdown' begins this Thursday. This week we'll (the welfare team) be developing a plan/campaign/something in collaboration to support the students. Welfare hours started - it's a good system and we'll start offering more hours as time goes on with this lockdown. Student support drop-ins to start this week. Campaign progressions are still underway.

Alcohol awareness; will you send a link to this? Need emails to send this but then could be able to send this around.

l. College Matters [DM]

University matters

- University is working on a review in the Accommodation fees, so each College has different prices depending on the type of room, size, etc.

- Discipline is not too harsh in Colleges at the moment but behaviour is not improving.

- Have share a list of items that our C&S might need for their activities with

social distancing.

- College gyms could remain open if each time slot is for a household and, has a cleaning between each slot with professional cleaning at the end of the day.

Activities could continue if they are targeted to be done by each household in their household space, no household mixing is allowed.

- On the meeting with the PVC, we ask to have access to an update version of guidelines guide, that our liver-out students receive support as they will be not able to come to College. Bar staff to be furloughed since the bars won't be operating and students depend on it. More updates will be delivered by University.

College matters

- College has enquiry that the GCR consider how we can have a more festive Christmas since a lot of international students will be staying this year. Some suggestions are decorating outside, make sub household advent calendar.

Exec matters

- I am working to have a meeting with Quentin to review the MoA update.

5. AOB
 - a.

Brad Din
GCR Secretary
11/02/2020